

may duly come before the parish at any annual or special meeting. In the case of a newly organized parish, the right of suffrage shall extend to all members of the new congregation for the election of the initial vestry and the adoption of bylaws. Additional qualifications for suffrage not inconsistent herewith, if any, shall be contained in bylaws adopted in accordance with the provisions of (a) hereof, provided that the age of all voters shall not be less than 18 years of age.

(a) The parishes and separate congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Maryland may by bylaws provide for the time, place, and manner of calling the annual meeting, and all special meetings of the parish and the manner of conducting elections of vestrymen, the number of vestrymen to be elected, and the length of the terms of the offices of vestrymen. Such bylaws may be adopted at any annual meeting or special meeting of members of the parish or congregation by a vote of two thirds of the qualified voters present at such meeting. Any bylaws adopted as authorized by this section shall be subject to amendment, modification, or repeal at any annual meeting or special meeting of the parish or congregation in the same manner as herein provided for adoption of such bylaws. Subject to the provisions of applicable public law, parish bylaws shall be in conformity with the constitution and canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church and of the diocese of said church wherein the parish is located.

312B. Enrollment of applicants by secretary of parish.

The secretary of the parish shall, and it is hereby declared to be his duty, to enroll any person of the Protestant Episcopal Church who shall apply for the purpose, on the books of the parish.

312C. Perpetuation of vestry.

To perpetuate the vestry in each parish, if a vacancy happens in the vestry after their election, or anyone elected shall refuse to serve, then the other members shall have the power to appoint a new member or members, as the case may be, to serve till the next succeeding annual election.

312D. Vestrymen to judge elections and qualifications of voters and proposed vestrymen.

The vestrymen of each parish, or a majority of those who shall attend, shall judge of the election of vestrymen, and of the qualification of voters, and of the qualification of the parishioners proposed to be elected as vestrymen.

312E. Oath of vestrymen.

The bylaws of a parish may provide that every person